

Appl. No. 09/917,261
Amdt. dated March 24, 2004
Reply to final Office action of September 24, 2003

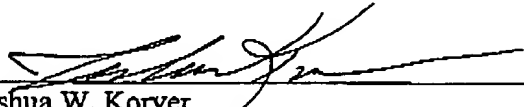
REMARKS

Claims 1-20 were pending in the application before this amendment and request for reconsideration was submitted. Claims 1-6 and 18-20 are rejected in the Office Action under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 5,787,247 issued to *Norin et al.* Claims 7-17 are allowed. Claims 1-6 and 18-20 are cancelled. No new matter has been added. A Request for Continued Examination (RCE) is being filed concurrently with this Amendment.

Applicants have cancelled all the rejected Claims such that only the allowed claims are currently pending in this application. Applicants therefore respectfully request a Notice of Allowance for the currently pending Claims.

Respectfully Submitted,

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